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LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 199[illegible]OM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ZAIRE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you an extremely urgent message sent to you by Mr. Kamanda wa Kamanda, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Zaire.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of its annex issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khabouji N'zaji LUKABU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Minister Plenipotentiary
Deputy Permanent Representative

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Annex

Message from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Zaire addressed to the President of the Security Council

According to reliable, verifiable and consistent information in the possession of the Republic of Zaire, 1,500 troops belonging to the Angolan Armed Forces, heavily armed, have left Cabinda on the orders of the Angolan Government and grouped in the border location of Yema with the clear intention of penetrating our territory across the border of Bas-Zaire.

We draw the attention of the Security Council to the seriousness of the direct involvement of the Angolan Armed Forces in the conflict under way in Zaire in support of rebels of the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo/Zaire in the southern and western parts of Zaire.

The Government of the Republic Zaire once again draws the serious attention of the Security Council to the external dimension of the aggression to which our country is being subjected, and requests, over and above the repeated declarations by the Security Council, that urgent measures should be taken to ensure the implementation, in chronological order, of the five-point peace plan contained in Council resolution 1097 (1997) of 18 February 1997.

While welcoming the decision taken by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-third session, held in Geneva, on the sending of an international commission of inquiry to eastern Zaire, as well as the contents of the firm statement by the President of the Security Council (S/PRST/1997/22) of 24 April 1997 on the serious violations of human rights and the atrocities committed by the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo/Zaire with the support and participation of those who are behind the unprovoked aggression being committed against Zaire, the Government of the Republic of Zaire recalls that it has many times in the past two years drawn the attention of the international community in general and of the Security Council in particular to the massive and repeated violations of international humanitarian law in Rwanda, Burundi and eastern Zaire.

This commission is being sent too late, because the international community did not respond promptly to the cries of alarm raised by various sources; we nevertheless believe that a few further violations can yet be prevented and a few human lives saved.

This is why we think that if energetic measures are not taken immediately to put an end to them, the United Nations will incur a heavy responsibility before history for the unprecedented crimes against mankind that are being committed against Zaire every day, amidst indifference, a case in point being the recent fate of the Rwandan refugees south of Kisangani, of whom we are now trying to find 80,000, whereas there were more than 600,000 of them!

From the standpoint of the Charter of the United Nations, and especially of its preamble, the atrocities being committed in the Zairean territory controlled

by the attackers of the Republic of Zaire, three years before the end of this twentieth century, with the blessing of certain States Members of the United Nations bring shame on all of mankind!

(Signed) Gérard KAMANDA wa KAMANDA
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation